

PATENT COÖPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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Applicant's or agent's file reference CSC:SB:FP21299	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/AU2005/000377	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 18 March 2005	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 19 March 2004	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int. Cl. G09B 19/04 (2006.01) G09B 5/04 (2006.01)			
Applicant LANSTAR CORPORATION PTY LTD et al			

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
 - a. ☒ (*sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau*) a total of 6 sheets, as follows:
 - ☐ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
 - ☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
 - b. ☐ (*sent to the International Bureau only*) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or table related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 11 October 2005	Date of completion of this report 28 February 2006
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaustalia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer  ROBERT BARTRAM Telephone No. (02) 6283 2215

Box No. I **Basis of the report**

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on:

- ☒ The international application in the language in which it was filed
- ☐ A translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1 (b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4(a))
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
pages **1, 4-21** as originally filed/furnished
pages* **2-3a** received by this Authority on **11 October 2005** with the letter of **11 October 2005**
pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of
- ☒ the claims:
pages as originally filed/furnished
pages* as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
pages* **22-24** received by this Authority on **11 October 2005** with the letter of **11 October 2005**
pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of
- ☒ the drawings:
pages **1/9-9/9** as originally filed/furnished
pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of
pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
- ☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*):

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
- ☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-19	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-19	YES
	Claims	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-19	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

D1) WO 2004/025603

D2) US 6077080

D3) US 5429513

D4) The Macquarie Library PL, "The Macquarie Dictionary" Second revision 1988

D5) DE 10203746

D6) US 6729882

D7) WO 2001/067278

D8) US 5567159

D9) US 4655713

Novelty:

None of the citations, or any obvious combination of them, disclose all of the features defined in your claims 1 to 19. In particular the features of encoding words by identifying a plurality of different vowel sounds, representing each different vowel and the letters forming a vowel sound, by a first and second indicia furthermore using five indicia covering different sounds of letters in a word whereby a word is represented by a combination of the first to fifth indicia. As such the claims are considered to be both novel and inventive in light of these documents.

The claims are considered to satisfy the industrial applicability criterion in the field of teaching aides.

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particular form the invention is directed at a method of encoding words which enhances a student's ability to learn how to pronounce different words.

According to a first aspect of the present
5 invention there is provided a method of encoding words for language teaching comprising the steps of identifying a plurality of different vowel sounds, representing each different vowel sound and the letters forming the vowel
10 sound by a first indicia and a second indicia, storing the different first and second indicias for each vowel sound, identifying a plurality of different consonant sounds, representing each consonant sound by a third indicia and a selection of consonant sounds by a fourth indicia, storing
15 the third and fourth indicia for each consonant sound, identifying a plurality of different silent letters occurring in words, representing each silent letter by a fifth indicia and storing the fifth indicias for each silent letter whereby a word is represented by a combination of the first to fifth indicia.

20 According to another aspect of the present invention there is provided a method of displaying words for language teaching, comprising the steps of identifying a word, encoding the word into a plurality of indicia components and displaying the encoded word comprising
25 indicia components, wherein the plurality of indicia comprise a first and second indicia representing different vowel sounds and their composing letters, third indicia representing different consonant sounds, fourth indicia representing a selection of consonant sounds and fifth
30 indicia representing different silent letters occurring in words.

According to a further aspect of the present invention there is provided a system for teaching a language comprising a database which stores a plurality of
35 different vowel sounds, with each vowel sound and its composing letters represented by a first indicia and a second indicia, a plurality of different consonant sounds,

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with each consonant sound represented by a third indicia
and a selection of consonant sounds by a fourth indicia, a
plurality of different silent letters occurring in words,
with each silent letter represented by a fifth indicia,
5 and a plurality of different words, a conversion means
which converts each word into a converted form comprising
the indicia and a display means which displays a word in
converted form, and wherein the conversion means is
adapted to convert a word input into the system and
10 utilise the display means to display the word in converted
form.

It is preferred that the methods and system
involve storing all different vowel sounds and all
different consonant sounds.

15 Preferably the selection comprises consonants,
diagraphs or consonant blends or other consonants having a
particular characteristic.

Preferably, the method includes identifying a
plurality of different consonant diagraph sounds,
20 representing each consonant diagraph sound by a sixth
indicia and storing the sixth indicia for each consonant
diagraph sound.

An indicia may include any symbol(s), number(s),
notation(s), letter(s), colour(s), font(s), mark(s),
25 representation(s), zone(s) or any other sign.

The method may include creating a database
comprising the different indicia.

According to one embodiment the method includes
creating a dictionary database which stores the meaning of
30 each word.

According to another embodiment the dictionary
database stores the prefix, roote and suffix of words.

According to a further embodiment the method
involves displaying the prefix/roote and suffix of each
35 word.

~~It is preferred that words displayed with a~~
prefix, roote and suffix are shown in coded form

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represented by the applicable indicia.

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CLAIMS

1. A method of encoding words for language teaching comprising the steps of identifying a plurality of different vowel sounds, representing each different vowel sound and the letters forming the vowel sound by a first indicia and a second indicia, storing the different first and second indicias for each vowel sound, identifying a plurality of different consonant sounds, representing each consonant sound by a third indicia and a selection of consonant sounds by a fourth indicia, storing the third and fourth indicia for each consonant sound, identifying a plurality of different silent letters occurring in words, representing each silent letter by a fifth indicia and storing the fifth indicias for each silent letter whereby a word is represented by a combination of the first to fifth indicia.
2. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the selection of consonant sounds comprises consonant diagraphs.
3. The method as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the first indicia comprises a number.
4. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 3 wherein the second indicia comprises a colour.
5. The method as claimed in claim 4 wherein the second indicia comprises a single colour.
6. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 5 wherein the third indicia comprises a colour.
7. The method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the third indicia comprises a single colour.
8. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 7 wherein the fourth indicia comprises an underscore located underneath consonant diagraphs.
9. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 7 wherein the fourth indicia comprises a symbol.
10. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 7 wherein the fifth indicia comprises a single colour.
11. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 10

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wherein a word is represented by a combination of letters and indicia.

12. The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the letters are represented by a colour indicative of the second, fourth or fifth indicia by which they are represented.

13. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 12 including the step of representing a group of consonant sounds by a sixth indicia and storing the sixth indicia for each consonant sound represented.

14. The method as claimed in claim 13 wherein the sixth indicia comprises a notation indicative of the pronunciation of the consonant sound.

15. A system for teaching a language comprising a database which stores a plurality of different vowel sounds, with each vowel sound and its composing letters represented by a first indicia and a second indicia, a plurality of different consonant sounds, with each consonant sound represented by a third indicia and a selection of consonant sounds by a fourth indicia, a plurality of different silent letters occurring in words, with each silent letter represented by a fifth indicia, and a plurality of different words, a conversion means which converts each word into a converted form comprising the indicia and a display means which displays a word in converted form, and wherein the conversion means is adapted to convert a word input into the system and utilise the display means to display the word in converted form.

16. A method of displaying words for language teaching, comprising the steps of identifying a word, encoding the word into a plurality of indicia components and displaying the encoded word comprising indicia components, wherein the plurality of indicia comprise a first and second indicia representing different vowel sounds and their composing letters, third indicia representing different consonant sounds, fourth indicia

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representing a selection of consonant sounds and fifth indicia representing different silent letters occurring in words.

5 17. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 15 including the step of display a matrix with sounds of one type along one axis and sounds of another type along another.

10 18. The method as claimed in claim 17 including displaying a composite of sounds from each axis by a zone corresponding to a point of intersection of the sounds on the grid.

15 19. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 16 including the step of searching for words including at least one of the indicia, vowel sounds, consonants, consonant diagraphs, silent letters.